



ASSEMBLYMEMBER
NICOLE PARRA

Representing the 30th Assembly District



Parra Notes

October 14, 2005

Hello Friends:

As we all know there are many things in life that don't make sense. The fact that landlords do not have the legal right to use the Megan's Law database to deny convicted sex offenders housing or to simply warn their tenants of one living in their building is one of them.

You might recall that earlier this year, I introduced **Assembly Bill 438** which would address this very problem. This legislation would essentially allow rental property owners the right to deny housing or to evict high-risk sex offenders. Unfortunately, this bill was held up in the Assembly Public Safety Committee and did not move forward. However, I'm looking forward to the next legislative year so I can work hard to ensure that AB 438 becomes law.

I recommend that you all read [Cross Country](#), an opinion piece written by **Catherine Seipp** for the **Wall Street Journal**. It was published just last Thursday. In it, Catherine does a wonderful job at explaining the history behind Megan's Law and why we need AB 438.

ROTARY CLUB OF DOWNTOWN BAKERSFIELD

Every year, Assembly member **Kevin McCarthy** and I are invited to address the **Rotary Club of Downtown Bakersfield** on issues important to the community. This year was no different as we took part in a lively debate about the special election. Channel 17's **Jim Scott** was also present as debate moderator. I had an amazing time as we answered several questions regarding the election. I've always felt that it's important that the community have a place to go where they can listen and learn about the many sides of an issue. The Rotary Club did an excellent job in ensuring that this happened in Bakersfield.

CALIFORNIA PARTNERSHIP FOR THE CENTRAL VALLEY

In the first California Partnership for the Central Valley meeting, proposed working groups were established as a means of addressing some of the needs of the Valley. I want to encourage everyone to get involved in these groups to ensure that the concerns you are interested in are addressed. All you have to do is contact my Chief of Staff Cynthia Léon by e-mail at Cynthia.Leon@asm.ca.gov and she will make sure that you are added to the working group of your choice. Below is the list of working groups.

- **Economic Development**
- **Higher Education**
- **K-12 Education**
- **Transportation**
- **Land Use, Agriculture and Housing**
- **Air Quality and Environment Protection**
- **Water Quality and Environmental Protection**
- **Health and Human Services**
- **Technology and Advanced Telecommunications**

VETERANS BUS RIDE

I'm very excited to announce my upcoming **Veterans Bus Ride!** For those of you who traveled to Barstow with me in 2003, you know what a great time we had as we visited with other veterans and discussed important legislative issues. I hope you will join me and other Central Valley veterans on **Monday, November 7, 2005**, on a bus trip to the VA Hospital in Fresno.

We will gather at **7:45 a.m.** at **601 24th Street (my Bakersfield district office)** for coffee and board a bus I've chartered for the trip to Fresno. We will make a stop in **Hanford** to pick up some more folks and then continue on to Fresno. There is plenty of free parking available at either location. During the drive we'll have an opportunity to discuss issues affecting California veterans. Once we arrive we will spend time with our Valley's heroes. After the visit, we'll board the bus back to **Bakersfield**, arriving home at approximately **3:30 p.m.** Further details are still pending so stay tuned to future **Parra Notes**.

The Veterans Affairs Central California Health Care System based in Fresno proudly serves veterans throughout the Central California. The medical center is situated on 18.5 acres and was dedicated in March 1950. The health care system is a 157 bed acute care, general medical, and surgical center with state of the art care in major diagnostic and treatment specializations. Extensive outpatient services are provided in a managed care environment by five Primary Care Teams and numerous specialty care clinics, including women's health. A 60-bed Geriatric and Extended Care Unit provides skilled nursing and rehabilitation care.

Spaces on the bus are limited so I encourage you to R.S.V.P as soon as possible by calling Richard Valle at (559) 585-7170. I look forward to seeing you on **Monday, November 7th**.

LEGISLATION

I'm excited to report that last weekend the Governor signed three more of my bills, **AB 437**, **AB 439**, and **AB 460**. In total the Governor signed eight of my bills this year. All will become law on January 1, 2006. Below is a brief description of each one. If you have questions on any of these please feel free to e-mail me at Assemblymember.Parra@asm.ca.gov .

AB 208 – Military Interdistrict Transfer: This bill authorizes a school district of choice to give priority for attendance to children of military personnel if the school district accepts transfer pupils. Joint-authored with Assemblymember Gordon. *Signed by the Governor on August 30, 2005.*

AB 434 – Education and Health Savings Accounts: This bill authorizes state-chartered credit unions to provide Health and Education Savings Accounts as federal-chartered are authorized to do. *Signed by the Governor on July 21, 2005.*

AB 520 – Civil Administrative Penalties: This bill would authorize the Secretary of the Department of Food & Agriculture or a County Agriculture Commissioner to levy a civil penalty against any person violating certain provisions relating to fruit, nut, and vegetable standards. *Signed by the Governor on September 6, 2005.*

AB 437 – Megan’s Law: Conviction/Release Date: This bill would include the conviction and release dates of sex offenders on the Megan’s Law internet database. *Signed by the Governor on October 7, 2005.*

AB 439 – Sex Offender Registration: This bill changes registration requirements for sex offenders moving out of state who do not know their next address. It also clarifies that sex offenders who obtain an expungement of their record are still required to register. *Signed by the Governor on October 7, 2005.*

AB 460 – Vet Quarantine: This bill expands the role of the California State Veterinarian in dealing with outbreaks of infectious diseases among California poultry and livestock. *Signed by the Governor on October 6, 2005.*

AB 706 – Whistleblower Protection: This bill establishes a procedure for investigation of whistleblower complaints within the California State University system and exempts such complaints from the Public Records Act. *Signed by the Governor on September 22, 2005.*

AB 1419 – Banking Licenses: This bill streamlines the licensing requirements for an existing CA Finance Lender licensee that is seeking to open a new location. *Signed by the Governor on September 6, 2005.*

EVENTS

During our legislative break, I will be attending several meetings and events throughout the district. Below you will find just a few of the public events that I am scheduled to attend in October.

If you or your organization would like to set up a time to meet with me or would like for me to attend an event you are sponsoring, please feel free to contact my Executive Assistant Ellen Manolis at (916) 319-2030 or by e-mail at Ellen.Manolis@asm.ca.gov.

October (Tentative)

- **Lamont Lions Club Meeting** – October 19th from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Lamont.
- **Domestic Violence Stakeholders Meeting** – October 19th from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Bakersfield.
- **Kern County Veteran’s Services Annual Stand Down** - October 19th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Bakersfield.
- **Keep Kids Alive Drive 25 Kings County Kick-Off** – October 20th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00

p.m. in Hanford.

WOMEN'S ADVISORY GROUP MEETING

On **October 20th**, I will be getting together with members of my Women's Advisory Group at the Hanford Civic Building training room in **Hanford** from **noon to 1:30 p.m.** If you have not taken part in a meeting, it's never late to join. The Hanford Civic Building is located at 321 N. Douty St. Hanford, CA 93230. For more information please contact Teresa Plascencia at (559) 585-7170 or at Teresa.Plascencia@asm.ca.gov.

IDENTITY THEFT COMMUNITY FORUM

On **October 21st**, I will host an Identity Theft Forum at the **Richard Prado Senior Center** in **Bakersfield** from **noon to 1:30 p.m.** I encourage all of you to attend as we will be discussing important information you need to know about protecting yourself from identity theft. The Richard Prado Senior Center is located at 2101 Ridge Rd., Bakersfield, CA 93301. For more information please contact Manuel Barrera at (661) 334-3745 or Manuel.Barrera@asm.ca.gov.

GUN SAFETY SEMINAR

On **October 22nd**, I will host a **Gun Safety Seminar** at **Burris Park** in **Kingsburg** from **2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.** We will be discussing important safety tips and new gun laws we should all be familiar with. Free trigger locks will be given out to those who attend. Burris Park is located at 6500 Clinton Ave, Kingsburg, CA 93631. For more information please contact Frank Stiger at (559) 585-7170 or at Frank.Stiger@asm.ca.gov.

HEALTH ADVISORY GROUP MEETING – OSHPD Town Hall

As part of a follow-up to a Health Advisory Group meeting we had a few months ago, I will be hosting a Town Hall with the Office of Statewide Planning and Development (OSHPD) on **November 4th** from **10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** at the **UC AG Extension** in **Hanford**. This is a very important meeting as we will provide a briefing on how to apply for Hospital Workforce & Community Development Division (HWCDD) programs. The UC AG Extension is located at 680 North Campus Drive, Suite F in Hanford. For more information please contact Frank Stiger at (559) 585-7170 or at Frank.Stiger@asm.ca.gov.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM IDENTITY THEFT

Each year thousands of people become victims of identity theft and don't even know it. Identity theft takes place when someone takes some piece of your personal information and uses it without your knowledge or consent. Below are just a few of the tips you can follow to help lower your risk of being victimized.

1. **Protect your Social Security Number** – Don't carry your Social Security card in your wallet.
2. **Shred important documents instead of throwing them away** – Shred documents with your personal information.
3. **Check your credit reports for free** – Be sure to monitor your credit history. You receive one free credit report per year from each of the three credit bureaus: Equifax, Experian, and Trans Union. Order your free credit reports by phone, toll-free, at 877-322-8228 or online at www.annualcreditreport.com/cra/index.jsp.
4. **Stop pre-approved credit offers** - Pre-approved credit card offers make a tempting target

for identity thieves who steal your mail. Have your name removed from credit bureau marketing lists by calling 888-5OPTOUT (888-567-8688).

'ICE' IN CASE OF EMERGENCIES

Give emergency personnel another tool in providing you with the necessary medical services by using **'ICE'**. It only takes a minute. All you have to do is enter into your cell phone's address book the acronym **'ICE'** with a name and phone number of the individuals you would like to be contacted in case of an emergency.

INTERNS WANTED

I am accepting applications for the fall internship program in my **Hanford, Bakersfield** and **Sacramento** offices. Candidates should be residents of the 30th Assembly District, possess solid research and communication skills, and have a strong interest in public policy and political issues facing the Central Valley. Applications can be found by going to:

<http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a30>.

For Hanford office internships contact **Matt Rogers** at **(559) 585-7170** or by e-mail at Matt.Rogers@asm.ca.gov.

For Bakersfield office internships contact **Manuel Barrera** at **(661) 334-3745** or by e-mail at Manuel.Barrera@asm.ca.gov.

For Sacramento office internships contact **Michael Tamariz** at **(916) 319-2030** or by e-mail at Michael.Tamariz@asm.ca.gov.

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Email: Assemblymember.Parra@assembly.ca.gov

Web Site: <http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a30/>

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